

Stage 4 Drought Disaster Restrictions and Requirements

From Sec. 106-186 (of the City Ordinance). Water shortage; authority of department

(f) *Stage 4 - Drought Disaster - 30 Percent Capacity.* When mandatory restrictions on non-essential uses does not adequately slow withdrawal of water from the lakes and when the levels of Lakes Arrowhead and Kickapoo reach a combined capacity of 30 percent (or the demand exceeds 120 percent of design treatment capacity, after a Drought Emergency has been declared), or the water supply system is unable to deliver water due to mechanical failure or damage of major water system components (which require more than 12 hours to repair) while a Drought Emergency is in progress, or the water system is contaminated either accidentally or intentionally, or the water system fails from acts of nature or man, a Drought Disaster will be initiated. The Director of Public Works shall impose further mandatory restrictions on non-essential uses of water and essential uses of water. All restrictions from Stage 3 remain in effect, except as specifically modified below. In Stage 4, the following additional restrictions shall apply:

(1) Irrigation:

- a. It shall be unlawful to utilize any type of irrigation on any day at any time. This restriction includes all forms of irrigation, including, spray, bubbler, drip, hand-watering, etc.
- b. Nursery Plant Stock is exempt from the provisions of subsection (a) of (f) (1) (a).

(2) Large Industries

- a. Large Industries will be notified by the City to initiate a Water Audit of their facilities.
- b. The Water Audit will include where water is being used within the facilities and where reductions in water usage can be made.
- c. Large Industries will have 60 days to conduct the Water Audit and submit a written report to the Director of Public Works detailing the findings of the Water Audit and the percent reduction in water consumption that can be achieved.
- d. Each Large Industry will be required to have all internal modifications to implement the water reduction completed and functioning by the time a Combined Lake Level of 20% is reached.

(3) Other / Miscellaneous

a. The watering of Home Foundations is restricted to once a week, on the day the property was authorized to spray irrigate in accordance with the Water Rationing Map.

i. Foundations may only be watered between the hours of 8pm & 12 midnight.

ii. Foundations may only be watered with Soaker Hoses.

b. It shall be unlawful to wash sidewalks, driveways, concrete slabs, any structure or any part of a structure during Stage 4 restrictions.

(4) All Hydrant Meters for contractor use will be pulled and service suspended until conditions return to a Drought Emergency status.

(5) Continue the aggressive public relations and education program.

(g) *New Landscape Waiver.* A waiver of subsection (d)(1) may be granted for the irrigation of new landscaping plants whereby watering would be permitted to maintain adequate growth until the plants are established but not to exceed a 30-day time period. This waiver will not be available when the combined lake levels are at or below 40 percent. Any person wishing such a waiver must make application to the City Public Works Department and pay a \$50.00 nonrefundable fee. The applicant must agree to pay a water rate that is three times the normal rate for that customer for all consumption over 12 CCF as registered by residential meters and all consumption as registered by water-only meters or commercial meters. Persons who desire a waiver for new landscapes shall utilize exclusively water-use efficient trees, shrubs, ground covers, ornamental plants and turf; and are to utilize water-wise horticultural practices, including proper soil preparation and the use of mulch, compost and zonal irrigation systems. These plants and practices may be found on the Texas A & M University (TAMU) web page at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/extension/xeriscape> and in their Xeriscape Bulletin B-1584-7-98, or their replacements. Compost is available from the City Organics Recycling Facility located at the landfill daily through a registered vendor network, and periodically to qualified members of the public on free compost days. Turf, plants and trees with a drought tolerance of good to excellent listed for zones #4 and #7 (as listed by TAMU) meet the requirements of this section. Turf grasses that qualify are Buffalo grass, Zoysia grass and Bermuda grass.

(h) *Public and private golf courses.*

(1) Golf courses may utilize Spray Irrigation on greens at any time for the purposes of cooling golf course putting surfaces when warranted by weather conditions and only with run cycles of less than five minutes.

(2) Golf course greens are exempt from the Spray Irrigation days established in (d) (1) (b), and greens may be Spray Irrigated any day of the week.

(3) During a Stage 2 Drought Warning (50%- Capacity), it shall be unlawful for golf courses to Spray Irrigate Tee-Boxes and Fairways, except on the day of the week permitted for the area as identified on the Water Rationing Zone map.

(4) During a Stage 3 Drought Emergency (40%- Capacity):

a. it shall be unlawful for golf courses to Spray Irrigate Tee-Boxes, except on the day of the week permitted for the area as identified on the Water Rationing Zone map.

b. golf courses are exempt from the spray irrigation time limitations of Stage 3. Golf courses will continue to be subject to the prohibition of spray irrigation during the daylight hours between 11a.m. & 6 p.m.

c. it shall be unlawful for golf courses to Spray Irrigate fairways.

(5) During a Stage 4 Drought Disaster (30% Capacity)

a. It shall be unlawful to irrigate any and all turf areas on the golf course including greens, tee boxes, and fairways.

b. The Golf Courses will be allowed to utilize the remaining water within their pond system, as they see fit; but, will not be allowed to refill the ponds from the City system, while in a Stage 4 Drought Disaster..

(i) A water conservation surcharge will be applied to all applicable accounts when the 50 percent, 40 percent and 30% trigger levels are reached.

(1) When a Stage 2 Drought Warning is declared (combined lake levels of Arrowhead and Kickapoo are at or below 50%) the surcharges will be:

a. For Residential Water Meters:

\$0.50 per hundred cubic feet (CCF) between 10 CCF and 20 CCF,
\$1.00 per CCF between 20 CCF and 40 CCF, and
\$2.00 per CCF over 40 CCF.

b. For Irrigation Water Meters:

\$0.50 per CCF between 0 CCF and 10 CCF,
\$1.00 per CCF between 10 CCF and 20 CCF,
\$2.00 per CCF between 20 CCF and 40 CCF, and
\$4.00 for each CCF over 40 CCF.

(2) When a Stage 3 Drought Emergency is declared (combined lake levels of Arrowhead and Kickapoo are at or below 40%) the surcharges will be:

- a. For Residential Water Meters;
\$1.00 per CCF between 10 CCF and 20 CCF,
\$2.00 per CCF between 20 CCF and 40 CCF, and
\$4.00 per CCF over 40 CCF.
- b. For Irrigation Water Meters;
\$1.00 per CCF between 0 CCF and 10 CCF,
\$2.00 per CCF between 10 CCF and 20 CCF,
\$4.00 per CCF between 20 CCF and 40 CCF, and
\$8.00 per CCF over 40 CCF.

(3) When a Stage 4 Drought Disaster is declared (combined lake levels of Arrowhead and Kickapoo are at or below 30%) the surcharges will be:

- a. For Residential Water Meters;
\$3.00 per CCF between 10 CCF and 20 CCF,
\$6.00 per CCF between 20 CCF and 40 CCF, and
\$12.00 per CCF over 40 CCF.
- b. For Irrigation Water Meters;
\$3.00 per CCF between 0 CCF and 10 CCF,
\$6.00 per CCF between 10 CCF and 20 CCF,
\$12.00 per CCF between 20 CCF and 40 CCF, and
\$24.00 per CCF over 40 CCF.

(4) Surcharges will remain in effect until the City Council announces the end to the restrictions.

(5) Water utilized by commercial nurseries for plant stock production shall not be subject to the surcharges specified herein.

(j) The Director of Public Works shall declare that each "trigger level" has been reached and that the water use restrictions for each respective stage are in effect. The water restrictions will remain in effect until the lakes rise to a level that, when combined with the long-term forecast, assures the city an adequate supply of water. When an adequate supply of water is available, the City Council, by majority vote, and after consultation with the Director of Public Works, shall announce the end to each respective stage of the restrictions.

(k) Water used for irrigation from private wells, aerobic septic systems, wastewater effluent or other non-potable water will be exempt from all drought-related restrictions but must comply with all other City, State and Federal regulations.

(l) Any person, firm, corporation or other entity found in violation of any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of \$25.00 for the first offense; not more than \$500.00 for the second offense; and not more than \$2,000.00 for each offense thereafter. Each day of violation of this section shall constitute a separate offense. Proof of a culpable mental state shall not be required for the first or second offense. In the event that this section is flagrantly violated by repeated offenses, the Director of Public Works is authorized to order the pulling of the customer's water meter until all fees and fines are paid.